Next chance to Hajis

3130. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any proposal thai people left out of this year's Haj due to the swine flu scare would be accommodated in the next years pilgrimage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No. No Indian pilgrim was specifically left out of this year's Haj due to the swine flu scare.

(b) Does not arise.

China's role in South Asia

3131. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent statement of U.S. President Barrack Obama with regard to China's role in South Asia, particularly in Indo-Pak relations;

(b) if so, India's response to these statements;

(c) whether the same has been communicated to the U.S. administration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Yes. With regard to the US China Joint Statement of November 17, 2009, Government of India stated, on November 18, 2009 that "Government of India is committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan through a peaceful bilateral dialogue in accordance with the Shimla Agreement. A third country role cannot be envisaged nor is it necessary. We also believe that a meaningful dialogue with Pakistan can take place only in an environment free from terror or the threat of terror.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Pakistan Co-operation to solve 26/11 attack

3132. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Pakistan is extending co-operation to India in the investigation of 26/11 terrorist attacks in Mumbai;

(b) if not, whether Government proposes to take any steps to push Pakistan to do more in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and